



Indigenous and  
Northern Affairs Canada

Affaires autochtones  
et du Nord Canada

*Your file - Votre référence*  
3BC-CBA1015

July 26, 2016

*Our file - Notre référence*  
IQALUIT-#1070326

Licensing Department  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
GJOA HAVEN, NU, X0B 1J0

Sent via email: [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

**Re: Technical Review of Cancellation Application – Cape Bounty Arctic Watershed Observatory Project - Scott Lamoureux, Department of Geography and Planning, Queen's University (3BC-CBA1015)**

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for the Nunavut Water Board's May 25, 2016 notice of the above mentioned water licence cancellation application. A memorandum is provided for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration. Comments and recommendations have been provided pursuant to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 867-975-3877 or email at [Amanda.Winegardner@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca](mailto:Amanda.Winegardner@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca) for further information.

Sincerely,

Amanda Winegardner  
Water Management Specialist  
Water Resources Division  
Resource Management Directorate  
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada  
P.O. Box 100  
IQALUIT, NU X0A 0H0

Encl.

Cc. Scott Burgess, A/Manager, Water Resources - INAC, Nunavut Regional Office (NRO)  
Erik Allain, Manager, Field Operations – INAC, NRO

Canada 

# Memorandum

To: Licensing Department, Nunavut Water Board

From: Amanda Winegardner, Water Management Specialist, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Cc: Scott Burgess (NRO), Erik Allain (NRO)

Date: July 26, 2016

**Re: Technical Review of Cancellation Application for Licence No. 3BC-CBA1015**

Applicant: Scott Lamoureux, Department of Geography and Planning, Queen's University

Project: Cape Bounty Arctic Watershed Observatory Project (Melville Island)

Region: Qikiqtani

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## Comments:

### A. Background

On May 25, 2016, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) invited interested parties to review a water licence cancellation application for the Cape Bounty Arctic Watershed Observatory Project (Type B licence 3BC-CBA1015) submitted by Scott Lamoureux (the Licensee) of Queen's University. An extension to the review period was requested by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on June 23, 2016. The extension request was granted by the NWB on that same day, with the review period being extended to August 3, 2016. The Licensee is seeking to cancel the licence that authorizes water use and waste disposal for research activities and seasonal camp activities on Melville Island. Research activities associated with this project include water body sampling (local streams, rivers and lakes: ~1L samples at a time) as well as soil and vegetation sampling using various sensors as well as ice and soil augers. The associated field camp is in operation yearly from May to August and houses 3-10 people at a time. Between 20 and 60 L of water is collected from local water bodies (rivers, lakes and streams) daily to support domestic camp uses ( $< 1 \text{ m}^3$  per day). Camp greywater is disposed of in a screened sump, and toilet wastes are disposed of in an incinerating toilet. Solid waste is backhauled to the community of Resolute Bay. Annual reports from 2008-2015 show per annum water use to be between  $1 \text{ m}^3$  and  $5 \text{ m}^3$ . Recent inspection reports for the site show that approximately three drums of gasoline are stored on site along with nine propane cylinders (~45 kg cylinders each). These fuel containers are all stored in secondary containment.

While the cancellation of the expired licence is pending, the Licensee has applied for and obtained approval for water use and waste deposit without a licence for the 2016-2017 year for the Cape Bounty project (8WLC-CBA1617, expiring April 4, 2017).

## B. Results of review

On behalf of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's Water Resources Division, the following comments and recommendations are provided:

### 1. **Updates to Spill Contingency Plan**

**Source:**

- 1) 3BC-CBA1015 Amended Spill Plan

**Comment:** The Licensee's Spill Contingency Plan (SCP) for the expired licence has not been updated since 2010.

**Recommendation 1:** INAC recommends that if the Licensee is required to prepare any SCPs for future water licence processes that the Licensee ensure SCPs are updated annually (including items such as contact information).

### 2. **Water source**

**Source:**

- 1) 3BC-CBA1015 2016 Inspection Report (submitted by INAC inspector to the NWB, July, 23, 2016)

**Comment:** The 2016 inspection report of the site for 3BC-CBA1015 notes that the current water source for the camp is an ephemeral stream north of the camp location.

**Recommendation 2:** INAC recommends that the Licensee be aware that withdrawal of water from an ephemeral source may increase the footprint of camp activities on local water resources, and to keep this in mind when selecting future water sources under the approval without a licence. INAC also reminds the Licensee that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans does not allow water withdrawal from a single source of water to exceed 10% of the total instantaneous flow. Additionally, the Licensee is reminded to keep accurate records of all waste deposited, and accurate, daily records of water used.

## C. Conclusion

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada recommends that licence 3BC-CBA1015 be cancelled as per the closure recommendation submitted by an INAC inspector to the Nunavut Water Board on July 23, 2016.

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada notes that the Licensee has already obtained an approval without a licence for the activities that will be continuing at this site and that the conditions regarding water use and deposit of waste set out under the approval without a licence (8WLC-CBA1617) will continue to be enforced by an INAC inspector. The Licensee is advised to take note of the issues identified in the most recent inspection report for this site and to insure that conditions set under 8WLC-CBA1617 are met.